

# THE STRATHMORE AND BOW VALLEY BOARD

VOL. II., NO. 19.

STRATHMORE, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 11, 1911.

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## THE AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

Big Crowds, Fine Weather, Excellent Lectures, and Great Enthusiasm. An Unqualified Success. Visit by Minister of Agriculture

"The largest and most successful agricultural school yet held in Alberta," is the designation applied by the experts, from the Minister of Agriculture downwards, in referring to the event which has brought crowds of interested farmers and their wives and families into Strathmore—the Agricultural School held at the C.-F. K. Demonstration Farm. So far the success of the school has exceeded even the expectations of the organizer, Professor Elliott, who had at most counted on an attendance of 500, for every day has seen the attendance increasing. On Monday it was 750, on Tuesday it was about 800, while on Wednesday and Thursday it rose to over 950. The majority of those present, as the register showed, are from the Strathmore district, but there has also been a big representation from Gleichen, while Langdon, Acme, Nakama, Roebuck, Bassano, Crossfield, Cluny, and practically every place within a radius of 50 miles is represented. The weather has been ideal throughout the entire week.

From an educational point of view the school has been an equally great success. Lectures have been given on practically every subject pertaining to the farm by men who have their subjects at their finger ends, and the information given has been carefully memorized by the audience, while notebooks have been plentifully used.

The exhibit of stock is the finest that has ever been gathered together in this district, with some knowledge of horses and cattle has been woefully defective has come away with a knowledge that will stand him in good stead when buying, selling, or handling them. The same remark applies to the other stock.

The method of instruction is simple and easily understood. The animal to be judged is placed in the showing. The audience are then all provided with cards which are noted all the different facts and merits which count in judging, and the instructor takes up each section, invites members of the audience to allocate the points they deem it value for. Then he proceeds to give his own opinion, and his reasons for it. The interest shown by the audience is indicated by the large number of questions asked on each subject, and the information asked for is given in a very complete and concise manner, which leaves no room for misunderstanding. The lectures are given in a large tent, with seats arranged in tiers round the sides. The animals are brought into the centre of the ring, and can be seen from all sides. Lectures dealing with other subjects are held in the green houses and it is here that the daily free luncheon is served. Many prominent people attend during the week much impressed with the good work being done.

The keynote of the entire proceedings was in impressing the desirability of mixed farming, and it is certain that it will have great results in this direction, the interest taken by the farmers being intense.

Professor Elliott inaugurated the proceedings on Monday morning with a short address, and extended the freedom of the farm to those present.

Mr H. A. Craig, superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, conducted a very interesting class on dairy stock judging, after which adjournment was made for luncheon.

### Alfalfa

By W. H. FAIRFIELD

Professor Elliott opened the session on Monday afternoon with some remarks, and introduced Mr Fairfield, who was to lecture on alfalfa.

Mr Fairfield began by saying that it was a pleasure to talk to farmers who took such an interest in the lectures. The importance of alfalfa to irrigated districts was very great. The lecturer mentioned the discouragement he had experienced when he first started to grow alfalfa. It had sometimes after been discovered that what was needed was inoculation of the soil. Soil for the growing of alfalfa must not be wet, and must have surface drainage to the land. Alfalfa prefers a sandy soil with a loose subsoil, but the farmer need not hesitate because land is a little heavy. The best preparation is summer fallow, or potato patch, and if land is like this it is not necessary that a new seed bed should be worked up. Get some inoculated soil, about 100 or 150 lb. to the acre, and when inoculation is put on, it is best to cover it up, so as to incorporate the soil in the land. It is a bacteria that is being put on the land. Inoculation will have no effect the first season on the growth of the alfalfa, but it is required for the second season. Scarcely a field of alfalfa but what shows the need for inoculation in the second season.

The lecturer instanced a case of inoculation of soil causing alfalfa to grow about twenty inches high and give two tons per acre, while without inoculation the alfalfa only grew some ten inches high. The point to be noted is that inoculation does not bring out the first season what it does in the second. The quantity of seed required is 20 lb. per acre. A less quantity than this will give a good stand quite often, but 20 lb. gives the best results. It may be necessary in some parts of the Province to get a variety that is rather harder than others. The Turkistan and Grimm varieties are hardy, but the Grimm cannot be had in any great quantity. The next best thing is to get Montana grown seed, as the conditions there are somewhat similar to what they are here. Alfalfa should never be sown with a nurse crop, as the nurse crop shades the alfalfa too much, and weakens it. Alfalfa wants plenty of sun, and not shade. It wants the warmth. Alfalfa should be clipped when it is about ten inches high, and it should not be cut too late in the fall. It is hard on the young alfalfa to pasture it. Alfalfa should be sown from the middle to the end of May with broadcast or with a drill, but if sown in the latter way care must be taken not to drill too deep. The soil here is theoretically speaking

better for the growing of alfalfa than in the Lethbridge district. Dry land the best for the raising of alfalfa seed. Far seed is thinner in rows from two to three feet apart. Question of curing hay. In alfalfa there is a great deal of nutriment in the leaves. Leaves round for round are very much more nutritious than the stems. The proper way to cure alfalfa is to rake it up as soon as cut into heaps and allow to cure in the sun. The first crop is concerned is much better, because when irrigating is done in the spring, the crop receives a set-back, the water being too cold. Get after the water at the right time. The first cutting should be made between the 20th and the end of June. Three cuttings will not be possible unless the first is cut then. As soon as the first crop is off the ground, the land should be irrigated for the second crop. Flooding is not necessary after the second crop, as this crop grows so quickly that the moisture is not all out of the ground. The land cannot be plowed too deeply. The soil should be pretty well rotted before alfalfa is sown. Packing the soil will help alfalfa. Alfalfa may be grown straight on for many years without any change. Inoculated soil can be supplied from the Experimental Farm, Lethbridge, (see list at least to anyone that applies for same, the applicant paying the freight. Harrowing will help the alfalfa a little. Inoculation holds for a long time. Land on which alfalfa is grown once will not require inoculation again. The tendency is for a field of alfalfa to get thinner rather than thicker. Have a thick stand to begin with so as to allow for thinning. Cutting of alfalfa kills the weeds. The first cutting only should be used for seed. On dry land two cuttings only, first one good and second light.

Mr Craig followed Mr Fairfield, and stated that this was the most interesting opening day of a school they had had, not only in point of attendance but in the discussions. They were looking for a splendid week all the way through.

### Hog Raising

Mr Stevens, Dairy Commissioner, next gave a lecture on "Hog Raising." The first thing he wanted to discuss was the cost of raising hogs to the farmer. The first and most important thing is to feed them with the things that can be given them for nothing. The hogs were generally denied these things. There were plenty of sunlight, fresh air and water. In dampness and darkness there lurks disease. Unless a good and plentiful supply of pure water is provided, they do not use the feed given them economically. A pig cannot put on flesh without water. During cold weather particularly, a hog will not drink enough of pure water. The best sleeping accommodation for hogs in Alberta in winter is a straw pile. He will always keep his bed dry, and consequently keep his skin in his feeling quarters any sort of enclosure that will keep out snow and wind. For for the hogs. Keep them on floor once a day in the afternoon to keep them busy. Keep the brood sows in this condition. Thinner than like to see them. It is important to keep the sows in this flesh and keep them busy by throwing whole ears of brood. Get plan to bring them a warm drink in the morning. Lime is necessary for bone, and much lime is got for free. Young pigs should be fed

## SIGNS OF THE TIME

By A. NEUBAKER

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**\$50.00 REWARD**  
 This will be awarded to the party giving the necessary information as to the whereabouts of our Parrot, which disappeared lately. When last seen it was on the balcony of the King Edward Hotel, informing those intending to build that  
**We carry the Best Stocks and give the Best Terms**  
 of any Lumber Co. from coast to coast.  
 Any information regarding the above will be gladly received at our office.  
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**THE STRATHMORE AND BOW VALLEY STANDARD**  
 PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.  
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 OUT OF CANADA, \$1.50  
 EDITOR—JOHN MACKENZIE  
 Legal Advertising, 12 cents a line first insertion, and 8 cents a line for subsequent insertions. 12 lines to the inch. Local, 10 cents a line. Foreign, 15 cents a line. Advertisements, 50 cents a line. Special advertisements, 11 per centum discount. Changes of advertisements should reach this office not later than noon each Thursday.

Saturday, February 11, 1911.  
**HOCKEY**  
 STRATHMORE 4, BASSANO 3  
 We avenged ourselves on Bassano last night, defeating them by 4-3. Certainly enough, the last two games were lost us by the same score. Last night's game was a very close and exciting one, and the scores would have been larger but for the clever work of the two goalkeepers, Crook and Tigerline. Both teams were the same as in the match played on Tuesday, reported on page 3.

**An Explanation**  
 (To the Editor of the Standard)  
 Sir.—It is unfortunate that there are a few in every vicinity who take advantage of the interest in public affairs to not to attend them, but who stand aside ready to freely criticize action taken by those gatherings. I infer it was one of these gentlemen who was the source of your information regarding action taken upon the recent resignation of the officers of the Agricultural Society.  
 Permit me, however, through your valued columns to make statement as to the reasons of these resignations and action there on.  
 In response to the request of a few that the entire board resign as a body, and in order to ascertain whether or not the resignations were from the public, the resignations were presented. They were NOT refused by the Executive, but by the unanimous vote of the association. Has there been any desire to change the personnel of the Executive we feel those interested would have been present to effect such a change. As the case now stands, it seems the dissatisfaction came entirely from the class above mentioned.  
 Thanking you for the use of your columns in this matter, I remain, yours,  
 FREDERICK W. SCHETTLER,  
 President Strathmore Agricultural Association.  
 C.F.A. meeting, Saturday, Feb. 18.

Messrs Fred Hill and A. Bryant re-ently bought a large tract of land in North Calgary from Mr. M. S. Hirtle.  
 The Fireman's Masquerade Ball, held last night, was a very successful event, and owing to lack of time we are unable to give a report of it in this issue.  
 A valuable entertainment, under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church, will be held in Brown's Hall on Monday, Feb. 13, at eight o'clock.

A successful and enjoyable whist party was held by the Ladies' Aid of St. Michael's Church on Thursday evening. Prize-winners were—Ladies: Mrs. J. Lally, 2; Mrs. G. H. Stanley. An enjoyable dance followed.  
 A social dance was held at the new Strangmuir Schoolhouse on Tuesday evening. The dance was a great success, due largely to the efforts of the floor manager, Chris Harrison. An excellent supper was served at midnight in the hall, in which Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. Christiansen did themselves credit. Excellent music was furnished by local musicians.

ESTIMATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION  
 For Any Kind of Carpenter Work  
 Specimens of our work to be seen around town  
**JOHN MACKENZIE**  
 "STANDARD"  
 JOB PRINTING IS NOT TO BE EXCELLED

**Presentation of District Trophy by Hon. Duncan Marshall—Lectures**

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Bryce Wright conducted the judging of a Cystine station going over the whole of the points connected with the animal, and explaining minutely the things which were most desirable for a heavy draft horse. Many questions were asked at the close. In opening Mr. Wright said that most of the best horses in the country were created, but he had been given the power of altering and improving the breed of horses. The score card was the kind of horse in Scotland as they did in England, France or Belgium. If they took a Clyde horse from Scotland and put him onto the rich soil of England he would grow grosser and fatter to the extent of 250 lbs. In Ireland he would grow much thinner and more like a couch horse. The score card was the relative value of teaching people the value of animals. After going over the score card, Mr. Wright concluded his lecture by saying that there was much more in horses than met the eye. He had been in this country for 25 years and had seen many settlers win success by means of stock-raising. The station before them was 15 years old, and he had made the fortunes of two men. The man who imported him had bought him for \$2000. He made \$2500 off him in two years and had then sold him for \$2000. He had been in his present owner's possession for 15 years and had made him a lot of money.  
 At the present time they could not begin to supply the demand for draft horses in this part of the country. There was not an industry that a farmer could make more of than raising a few good draft horses. They needed work horses to their own business, and would do well to take up the matter seriously.  
 HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL SPEAKS

Professor Elliott, in introducing Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, said that several months ago they held a Seed Fair in Strathmore which had excited considerable interest, and in connection with that a district competition, which had been taken part in by 10 or 12 townships. They had also been formed by the judges that they had had the best Seed Fair along the line for 1910. The C.F.R. had put up a trophy for the district which gained first place, and this had been won by Strathmore township, represented by Mr. R. E. Kalson.  
 Hon. Duncan Marshall said he wished to congratulate the farmers of this district for the splendid attendance at this school. At no previous school held in the Province had he seen so many people on the second day as there were here. He had himself counted 240, and there were some moving about so fast that he could not count them. He wished to congratulate the President, Mr. Elliott, who had done the preliminary work in connection with the school, and to assure him that after this reception the Department would be only too pleased to co-operate with him in this part of the country. He wished to thank the breeders who had lent their stock. Inside of another year, they hoped to have Demonstration Farms of their own in the Province. If he might offer a suggestion to the C.F.R. it was that they should erect a building of this Strathmore Farm for the purpose of teaching the students. If they did this the Government would hold a School here every year. He was pleased to have the opportunity of presenting the trophy given by the C.F.R. to encourage the production of good grain. The men who were raising good seed in this country were doing a great deal for its agriculture.  
 In conclusion, he would again express his pleasure at seeing so many present, and also to note the interest evidenced.  
 Mr. Marshall then presented the trophy to Mr. Robson amid cheers.  
 Mr. Robson said that on behalf of the people of township 24-25, he wished to thank Prof. Elliott and the C.F.R. for presenting this trophy for competition. Prof. Elliott had done more for the district than any other man who had been here before. He hoped that every township in the province could work as hard to get this trophy next year as they had this time. They had very close competition for it this time. It would have gone to township 23-25 only for one sack of smutty wheat.  
 Mr. W. F. Stevens, Live Stock Commissioner for the Province, afterwards delivered an interesting lecture on "Feeding of the Dairy Herd," which we shall publish in next issue.

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 Are You Interested?  
**Frank T. McElhoes**  
 Strathmore



# Agricultural School

(Continued from Page One)

warm feed. Throw oats on the floor, and on sunny days outside.

Q—What quantity of oats? Judge by condition, if a trifle fleshy, reduce quantity. The lecturer considered that 4½ to 5 cents per lb. was the cost of raising hogs. Regarding the cost of feeding hogs, gave results of experiments at Vermilion which brought out the fact that they should be fed rapidly and sold before they arrive at too great a weight. Pork was produced cheapest by using ground corn, feedings and skim milk. Various experiments explained giving results showing the cost of production of pork per 100 lbs. Average farmer does well if he grows pork at 4½ cents per lb. live weight. Should not go in to hog raising unless he can do this.

Q—You cannot raise corn here, what substitute? Barley. It is a mistake to grow pigs with barley. Barley is too heating by itself. The pig must have a dry bed. Another danger is to feed with food too rich.

Q—What about rape for summer pasture? Fine, if you haven't white legs.

Q—Do you think a man could start the hog business in Strathmore? Sure.

Q—Should the pig be fed with warm stuff in winter? Yes.

Q—Would you cook anything for the pig in the summer time? No. The hogs are better out in the summer time. Would recommend a hog pasture. Prairie grass not much use as a hog pasture, because can only eat grass when it is succulent. Winter rye makes the best pasture.

Q—What time is the season about the 1st of August?

Q—How many times will one acre of pasture keep? It depends largely on circumstances, but one acre should keep about 20 hogs.

Q—Do you prefer white grain to ground grain? Yes.

Q—What is good food for wintering pigs? Boiled potatoes, skim milk, shorts, ground oats.

Q—How many times would you feed the pigs in the day? Feed young pigs three times a day.

Q—Would you feed it all it can eat while fattening? Yes.

Q—What do you think of ground wheat? Good, but not by itself.

Q—Would you feed grain wet or dry? Dry.

Q—Do you believe in giving the pig soft coal occasionally? Yes, also a little salt.

The lecturer finished with a few words on the best breeds of pigs.

During the evening Mr. S. Stansell lectured on "Birds in their relation to agriculture," before a large and enthusiastic audience.

## Wednesday

The first session on Wednesday morning was commenced with a lecture by Mr. C. S. Marker, Dairy Commissioner, Calgary.

He went into the question of the composition of milk and gave its various constituents. He also explained the bacteriology of milk, and said it was a matter of great importance that the dairyman should know all about the germ life of milk.

He stated that the reason why milk cooled down kept sweet much longer than milk which was allowed to cool itself is that the cooling process is harmful to the germs which act upon the milk sugar converting it into lactic acid, thus turning the milk sour.

Dairy-men should aim at having their milk in a temperature of about 40 degrees F. The lecturer also spoke of the necessity for keeping the milk stable sweet and clean, that it should be thoroughly white washed at least twice a year, that as much sunshine as possible should be allowed to get into the stable, and that as far as possible dairy cows be kept from entering. The cows should not be fed with any milk that has been milked so as to keep the dairy from the dry feed supplied to them out of the milk, and in the evening he said that all milk utensils, in the separator, should be thoroughly cleaned.

Mr. Bryce Wright followed with a lecture on the judging of the Oxford and Shropshire breeds, in which he showed the various points of which there were very fine examples present. Mr. Wright also dealt with the handling and management of same, pointing out the fact that there was considerable money to be made in the keeping of sheep.

The forenoon session closed with a lecture from Mr. W. F. Stevens on the "Hog," in the course of which he pointed out the differences between the fat and bacon types.

This subject was very interesting, and the crowd only being stopped from asking questions in

time for lunch.

The afternoon session began with a demonstration by Mr. Bremer, butcher, Strathmore, showing how to cut up a side of beef, and a side of pork from the farmer's standpoint. This also was extremely interesting, the lecturer giving the names and prices of the different cuts.

Mr. McIntyre then explained the points to be taken into consideration in the judging of Suffolk stallions, and afterwards a number of students criticised the animals.

The last item for the day was a practical address from Mr. R. B. Robson, farmer, Strathmore, on his methods of irrigating, which we will give in our next issue.

## Thursday

The first session began at 10 a.m. with an attendance of about 150 when Mr. Barr, Dairy Commissioner, Ottawa, gave a lecture on the "Handling, care, and separation of milk and cream," which was followed with great interest by those present.

Mr. Barr stated that the best way to keep cream was in an insulated tank, so as to keep the temperature as uniform and as near 50° as possible, thus preventing the cream from turning sour.

Mr. C. S. Marker followed with a lecture on "Handling," going into the percentages of fat and fat, and the other constituents of cream. Mr. Marker mentioned that the churning process ought to take from 30 to 40 minutes. It took less than half an hour the lecturer was too soon. He also explained briefly the principles underlying the "Babcock" test for cream.

These two lectures were given in the greenhouse, and the people having adjourned to the tent.

Mr. H. A. Craig explained the various points to be taken into account in the judging of short-horn cattle for breeding purposes, and then called on Mr. McIntyre to take up the judging. There were three pure bred specimens present, and the students were asked to name them in order of merit.

After this had been done Mr. McIntyre called on Mr. McCallum, C.P.E., live stock commissioner, Calgary, to speak of the danger of the farmers going for grain too extensively, and emphasized the need for mixed farming.

Mr. J. T. Worthington, poultry expert, Strathmore, next gave a demonstration on the dressing of poultry.

Mr. J. T. Worthington said he would like to say a few words on one of the matters, the Live Stock Society of this district had a membership of about sixty, but he would like to see 60 more, and he made an appeal to the farmers present to join their society, for in unity there was strength.

He further said that he would like very much to express the appreciation and thanks of the farmers of Strathmore district to Professor Elliott for all the trouble which Mr. Elliott had put him through in making the school known throughout the district, and in working in every way to make it a great success. They were very much indebted to Professor Elliott, and he desired to present to show their appreciation by according him a very hearty vote of thanks. This was carried unanimously, and Mr. Elliott in reply thanked them very sincerely, and said that he was very pleased indeed to know that his efforts had been successful, and he assured them that he would do so much next year.

The stock parade was one of the most interesting features of the school, the animals all being of the best and the very best of the represented. The large and up-to-date cattle barn at the farm, with the building machinery, attracted much attention. Following is the list of live stock exhibited with the names of the exhibitors.

1 City-bred stallion—Mr. McIntosh  
1 do do—Mr. Richards  
2 do mares—Mr. Bryce Wright  
2 Suffolk stallions—Mr. G. J. Jones  
1 Belgian stallion—Mr. Kidd  
1 Park-bred stallion etc.—Mr. Lane  
2 do mares—Mr. Lane  
2 Shropshire cows—Mr. Crawford  
2 do bulls—Mr. Crawford



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Sunday School meets every Sunday  
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HOLY MASS will be celebrated on  
Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the following  
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FIRST SUNDAY of the month—  
at St. Stephen's of the Society's resi-  
dence.

SECOND SUNDAY—  
at Langdon, Mr. Jos. Bow's farm  
south of C.P.R. Depot.

THIRD SUNDAY—  
at Chualar, in the School House.

FOURTH AND FIFTH SUNDAYS—  
at Strathmore.

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FLAX  
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